Numb. 3919

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Monday May 31. to Thursday June 3. 1703.

Rome, *May* 12. *N. S.*

A *Franciscan* Fryar, named *Diaz*, who was Confessor to the late King of *Spain*, having, some time after that Prince's Death, openly declared that he doubted of the Truth and Validity of the Will which is attributed to him, incurred the Displeasure of the *French* Faction here, who endeavoured to seize him, with intent to send him to *Spain* or *Naples*, where he would have met with very severe Usage. To prevent this the Pope caused him to be confined in the Castle of *St. Angelo*, and he has continued there about a year and half; but (at the Imperial Ambassador's Desire) he was brought from thence last Week to his Excellency's House, and he intends to depart very soon for *Germany*. The *Spanish* Ambassador, to shew his Resentment at the Pope's ordering a Guard to be placed near his House, by reason of the disorderly Behaviour of his Servants, retired to a Country House not far from this City, declaring he would not return till this Guard was removed; but this Court took no notice of it, and he has at last been forced to comply, and is come back to his House, notwithstanding the Guard continues posted in the same place. Two Congregations of State were held this week, wherein the Pope was present, to consult upon the Means to raise Money for the Subsistence of his Forces, and several Taxes were proposed particulary one upon the Clergy, but none of them were agreed upon, and it was resolved at last to take up by way of Loan 150000 Crowns from the Bank of this City; besides which it is said Cardinal *Negroni* offers to lend the Pope a very considerable Sum, whose Example may prove an Encouragement to others to do the like. Cardinal *San Cesareo* is also gone to *Genoua*, to endeavour to borrow Money from that Republick.

Whitehaven, *May* 28. Yesterday came in here the *Whitehaven*, the *Amity* and the *Lennet*, of this Port, laden with *Tobacco* from *Virginia*, being part of the Fleet of Merchant Ships which arrived lately from thence at *Kinsale*, under Convoy of Her Majesty's Ship the *Southampton*. This day came in 14 Sail of light Colliers from *Dublin*, under Convoy of Her Majesty's Ship the *Feversham*.

Falmouth, *May* 29. The *Thomas* and *Elizabeth* of *London*, *William Harwood* Master, arrived here 3 or 4 days ago, and yesterday came in a Ship belonging to *Dartmouth* commanded by Captain *Manwaring*, and 4 other Merchant Ships, being part of the *Lisbon* Fleet; three more are put into *Mounts* Bay, and 27 others, all belonging to the said Fleet, sailed by this Place yesterday to the Eastward. The Masters of those Ships which are come in here report, That they set Sail from *Lisbon* the 21st Instant, *N. S.* under Convoy of 5 *Dutch* Men of War, the least of 35, and the biggest of 54 Guns, and met the next day 5 *French* Men of War, two of them being Three Decked Ships, and the rest being Ships of 70 Guns and upwards, almost double Manned, part of their Men being designed for the *French* Squadron which is fitting out at *Thoulon*, whither they were going, and three *French* Privateers in their Company; That these *French* Ships came up with the *Dutch* Men of War, who being joined by 4 *Dutch* Merchant Ships of about 26 Guns each, they engaged about 11 in the morning, and it was near 6 in the afternoon before the Merchant Ships abovementioned lost sight of them: The Fight was not then over, and the vigorous Resistance of the *Dutch* Squadron, though so much inferior to the *French*, had given an opportunity to the Merchant Ships to get away. Her Majesty's Ships the *Nonsuch* and the *Lizard* are now in this Port, with a Fleet of Merchant Ships under their Convoy, being bound about Land.

Plimouth, *May* 30. The 28th Instant came in here the *Carolus* of *London*, *Daniel Cock* Master, the *Abraham*, of *Colchester*, *John King* Master, the *Betty* of *London*, *Joseph Rowbuttomb* Master, the *John* of *Newcastle*, *Ralph Emerson* Master, the *Goodrick* of *Portsmouth*, *Henry Steeds* Master, the *John Adventure* of *London*, *Joseph Morley* Master, and a Ship of *Bredhemston*; all from *Lisbon*, and bound for *London*; the *Joseph* and *Samuel* of *Colchester* from *Viana*, and 5 *Dutch* Merchant Ships from *Lisbon* and *St. Ubes*: And about 50 Sail of *English* and *Dutch* Merchant Ships passed by to the Eastward, which came from *Portugal* with the Ships abovementioned, and divers other Merchant Ships, under the Convoy of 5 *Dutch* Men of War, who a few Leagues off the Coast of *Portugal*, met several *French* Ships of War, with whom they engaged, whereupon these Merchant Ships left them, and made the best of their way. This day came in Her Majesty's Ship the *Southampton*, and under her Convoy 17 Sail of Merchant Ships from *Virginia*.

Chester, *May* 31. His Grace the Duke of *Ormond*, Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, with his Dutchess, arrived here on Thursday last, having been met by the Governor, and a great Number of the Principal Gentlemen of this City and Country on Horseback. Our Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen, in their Formalies, attended his Grace's coming upon a Scaffold erected for that purpose, where he was, in an Ingenious and Elegant Speech, complimented by the Recorder, in the Name of the Corporation, the several Companies of the Citizens, with their Banners, attending in the Streets with all Imaginable Demonstrations of Respect; His Grace and the Dutchess went thence to the Castle (where he has been very generously and handsomely entertained by *Peter Shakerley* Esq; the Governor) the Guns firing upon his Reception. On Friday last in the evening his Grace was splendidly treated by the Corporation in the Town-Hall. Saturday last being the Anni-